

CHAPTER 56

PUTTING MAGNETISM INTO YOUR PERSONALITY

With the new direction God's Work is taking, we in the ministry will be called upon to serve God's Church and the local community in a more visible and viable way.

A servant is one who serves. A leader is one who leads. This requires that we be front line examples in ministering to the needs of people, both converted and unconverted. *'As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men' (Gal. 6:10).* The Apostle Paul said further, *'...I am made all things to all men' (1 Cor. 9:22).*

The attitude in which we do this, I feel, is super important. And this is where personal magnetism figures in. As ministers of the gospel. We should reflect a spontaneous attitude of concern the way Christ did. Christ attracted people to himself, not out of vanity, but through the sterling qualities of God's character in him.

A flow of energy and love and compassion emanated from Christ. He epitomized selfless service and this through joy, love and genuine concern. He went about doing many good works and showed no reluctance in attending to the needs of the lowliest person. Christ sparkled. Although He grieved over the sins of the world, His general disposition and outlook was happy, joyful and magnetic.

Personal magnetism is not an inherited trait. However, it can be developed, and the key is having a positive mind. This requires that we continually imbibe of God's Spirit — a source that produces the qualities of love, joy, peace, etc. It is only through God's Holy Spirit that we can achieve a warm, dynamics personal approach toward people that attract them to the way of life we represent.

People continually need a helping hand and an attentive ear, especially in times of trial, stress, and sickness. An encouraging outlook from one who can point out the ways particular tests act as opportunities for growth, stepping stones to accomplishments, can do much to lift a discouraged person out of his plight. An attitude of wanting to see the best things in life happen to people, of accepting them for what they are even when they are weak and sinful, can inspire and motivate them to greater heights of drive, determination and achievement. This is the kind of direction and mental framework that is needed to develop and maintain a magnetic personality.

True, life has its serious moments, but the well-balanced, positive individual will always keep things in their proper perspective. Rather than always appearing to be sober and hard-driving, we should be able to see the funny side of life's situations, and impart a sparkle of cheerfulness when appropriate. This is not to say that a magnetic person must always be the 'life of the party' because humility also plays a role in his life. Such a person can be dynamic and manifest an undercurrent of spiritual strength without dominating every situation with empty babblings, braggings about personal exploits, or drawing attention to himself out of self-righteous vanity. The magnetic personality enjoys listening to and learning from the experiences of others. The positive, real life examples of others often add zest and color to one's conversation, sermons and counselings.

Now that we as a ministry are to reach out and touch our neighborhoods and communities, in addition to shepherding, our own flocks, we should have deeply impressed in our minds the reality of what we are representing — the very work of God itself. All our deeds, works, and actions should reflect the sense of urgency that comes from being a true servant of God.

Love is truly the basis of it all. A minister who is filled with love and the fruits of God's Holy Spirit — his energy source — will be a magnetic and dynamic force for the good of the family, community, Church, and the world.

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